

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BELEM 0026 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BRASILIA
MEXICO DTD 25 MAR

QTE

UNCLAS BELEM 0026

MEXICO CITY FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, BR

SUBJECT: CAPTURE OF U.S. SHRIMP BOATS "YOUNG'S" AND "TINA MARIE"

1. BRAZILIAN NAVAL OFFICIALS OF FOURTH NAVAL DISTRICT, BELEM, TODAY INFORMED CONSUL THAT U.S. SHRIMP BOATS "YOUNG'S" (UB-074, DOC 297119) AND "TINA MARIE" (UB-108, DOC 534716) WERE SEIZED BY THE BRAZILIAN NAVY ON SATURDAY, MARCH 22, FISHING OFF COAST OF MARANHAO. VESSELS WERE ESCORTED TO BELEM WHERE THEY ARRIVED AT 08:00 AM ON MARCH 24.

2. VESSELS ARE CHARGED WITH VIOLATING US-BRAZILIAN SHRIMP AGREEMENT BY SHRIMPING IN AREA WHERE SHRIMPING IS NOT PERMITTED UNDER AGREEMENT.

3. VESSELS WILL BE CHARGED AGREEMENT ENFORCEMENT FEE OF US\$500 PER DAY FOR TWO DAY PERIOD VESSELS WERE UNDER DETENTION AT SEA AND
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US\$200 PER DAY WHILE BOATS BEING HELD AT PORT IN BELEM.

VESSELS WILL BE RELEASED BY NAVAL OFFICIALS IN BELEM AT PAYMENT OF THE FINE AND AFTER INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY BRAZILIAN NAVY, BRASILIA. PAST EXPERIENCE SUGGESTS THAT BRASILIA WILL NOT ORDER RELEASE UNTIL MARCH 31 OR APRIL 1ST (CONSIDERING FACT THAT MARCH 27 AND MARCH 28 ARE HOLIDAYS). ESTIMATED FINE WILL PROBABLY BE US\$2400--US\$2600 PER BOAT FOR TOTAL OF US\$4800--US\$5200.

4. U.S. SHRIMP VESSEL "YOUNG'S" OPERATED BY SUBSIDIARY OF THE BORDEN'S COMPANY. CONSUL INFORMED BELEM MANAGER OF PROPESPA (ALSO OWNED BY BORDEN'S) OF CAPTURE OF "YOUNG'S" AND OF ESTIMATED FINE. PROPESPA WILL PAY YOUNG'S FINE AND HAS ALREADY INFORMED PARENT COMPANY'S MIAMI OFFICE OF SEIZURE OF VESSEL.

5. U.S. SHRIMP VESSEL TINA MARIE BELIEVED TO BE OWNED BY SUPERIOR SEAFOOD INC. OF DES SEAFOOD INC. OF TAMPA, FLORIDA. REQUEST DEPARTMENT INFORM SUPERIOR SEAFOOD OF CAPTURE OF TINA MARIE AND OF ESTIMATED FINE, AND CONFIRM THAT TINA MARIE IS THEIR VESSEL. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO SUGGEST TO SUPERIOR SEAFFOD THAT THEY ASK BORDEN'S BELEM SUBSIDIARY PROPESPA TO BE THEIR AGENT IN THIS MATTER FOR PAYMENT OF FINE AND ACCEPTING RELEASED VESSEL.

6. CREW OF EACH BOATS CONSISTS OF ONE BRAZILIAN CITIZEN CAPTAIN AND THREE BRAZILIAN CITIZEN CREWMEN.

7. CONSUL EXPECTS TO RECEIVE WRITTEN NOTIFICATION AND REPORTS OF CAPTURE OF BOATS FROM BRAZILIAN NAVY LATE AFTERNOON OF MARCH 24. AFTER RECEIVED WILL TELEGRAPH FULL DETAILS SOONEST.
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